

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 14-609

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** South Fork and Upper Cottonwood Dirt Tank Cleanout and Repair

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region 6 Unit 22 South

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**  
• Payson

**Was the project presented to the LHPC?**  
YES[x] NO[]

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[] NO[x]

**If Yes, was it funded?** YES[] NO[x] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

**Project Type:** Dirt Tank Cleanout and Repair

**Brief Project Summary:** South Fork and Upper Cottonwood Tanks are located within unit 22 South Southwest of Rye and South of Jakes Corner respectively. They are both part of the Bar-T-Bar allotment. These dirt tanks have become ineffective at holding water due to the high level of silt as a result of the Willow Fire. Cleaning out and repairing these tanks would greatly benefit the wildlife in the area. The current livestock permittee in the area has agreed to provide money to fix one of the tanks if the HPC process could provide money for the other. Essentially this is a "buy one get one free" tank cleanout and repair.

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:** 50% Mule Deer 50% Whitetail Deer

**Implementation Schedule** (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:  
March 15, 2015

Project End Date:  
June 15, 2016

**Environmental Compliance:**

NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[X]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[] No[] N/A[X]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: Jarrod McFarlin

Projected Completion Date: After funding occurs

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:** \$ 4,500.00

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:** \$ 4,500.00

**Total Project Costs:** \$ 9,000.00

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):  
Jarrod McFarlin

**Address:**  
7200 E University  
Mesa AZ 85207

**E-mail:**  
jmcfarlin@azgfd.gov

**Telephone:** 480-528-8531

**Date:** 08/24/14

**AGFD Contact and Phone No.** (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):

**Project has been coordinated with:**

Ryan Else (Bar T Bar Ranch Manager), Greg Dunn (Tonto National Forest)

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

Upper Cottonwood and South Fork Dirt Tanks are located within unit 22 south. Upper Cottonwood tank is south of Jakes Corner and South Fork is southwest of Rye and both are part of the Bar-T-Bar allotment. These dirt tanks no longer hold water because they have become silted in and the dikes have broken primarily due to the Willow Fire in 2004. These areas are relatively void of perennial water and wildlife rely on these dirt tanks during the dryer months. Cleaning out and repairing these dirt tanks will provide wildlife with the much needed water currently vacant in the area.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

Cleanout and repair of these two dirt tanks will increase water in an area currently void of good water sources. These two tanks are located in prime whitetail and mule deer habitat and will also provide water to small game and predators as well. Elk, bear and javelina frequent the area as well.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

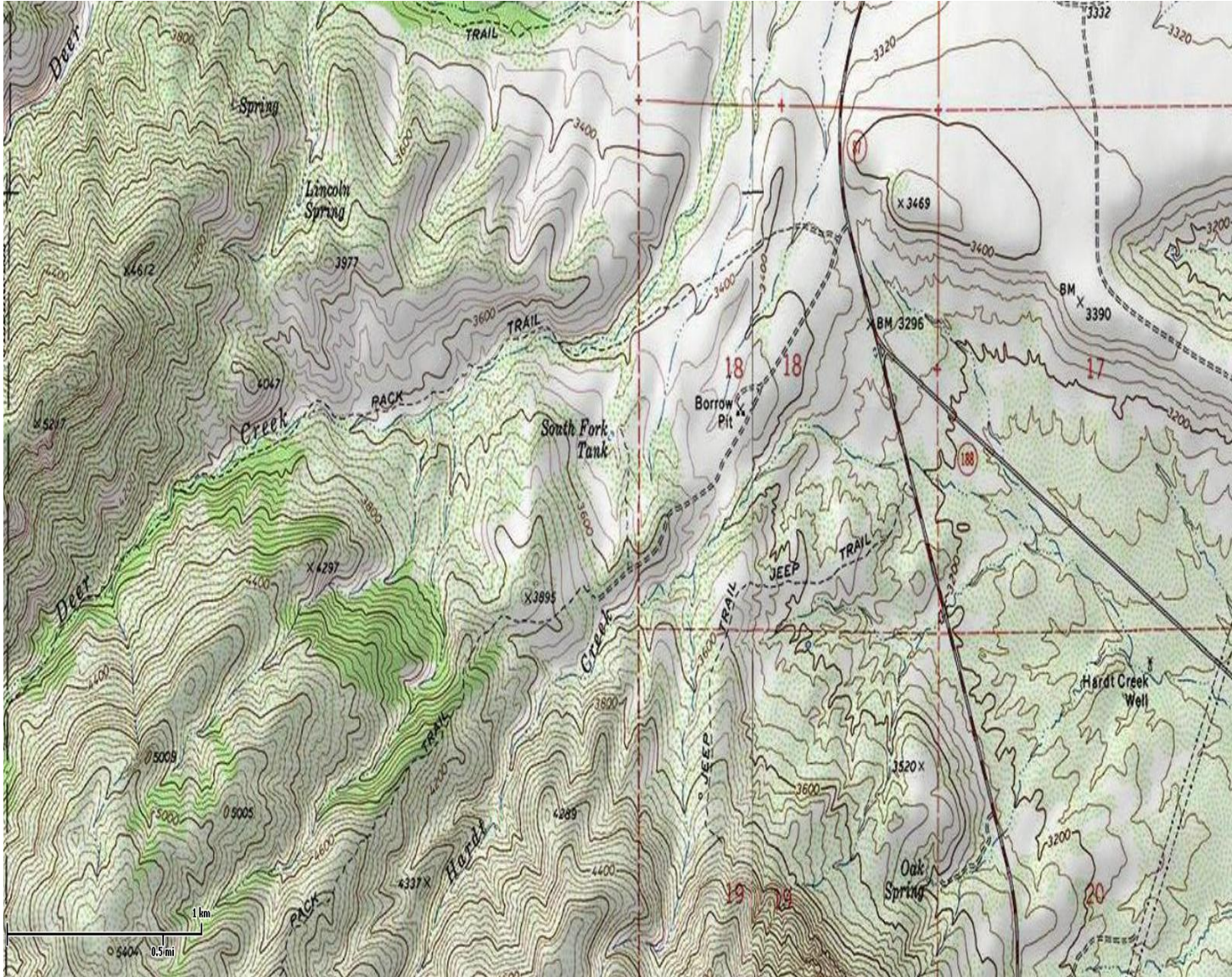
Removing sediment and repairing the dams on these tanks will increase the holding capacity of each tank. The current permittee has agreed to complete one of the tanks with his own funding if the HPC could fund the second tank. Approval from the forest service has been obtained in writing for each of these tanks.

## PROJECT LOCATION:

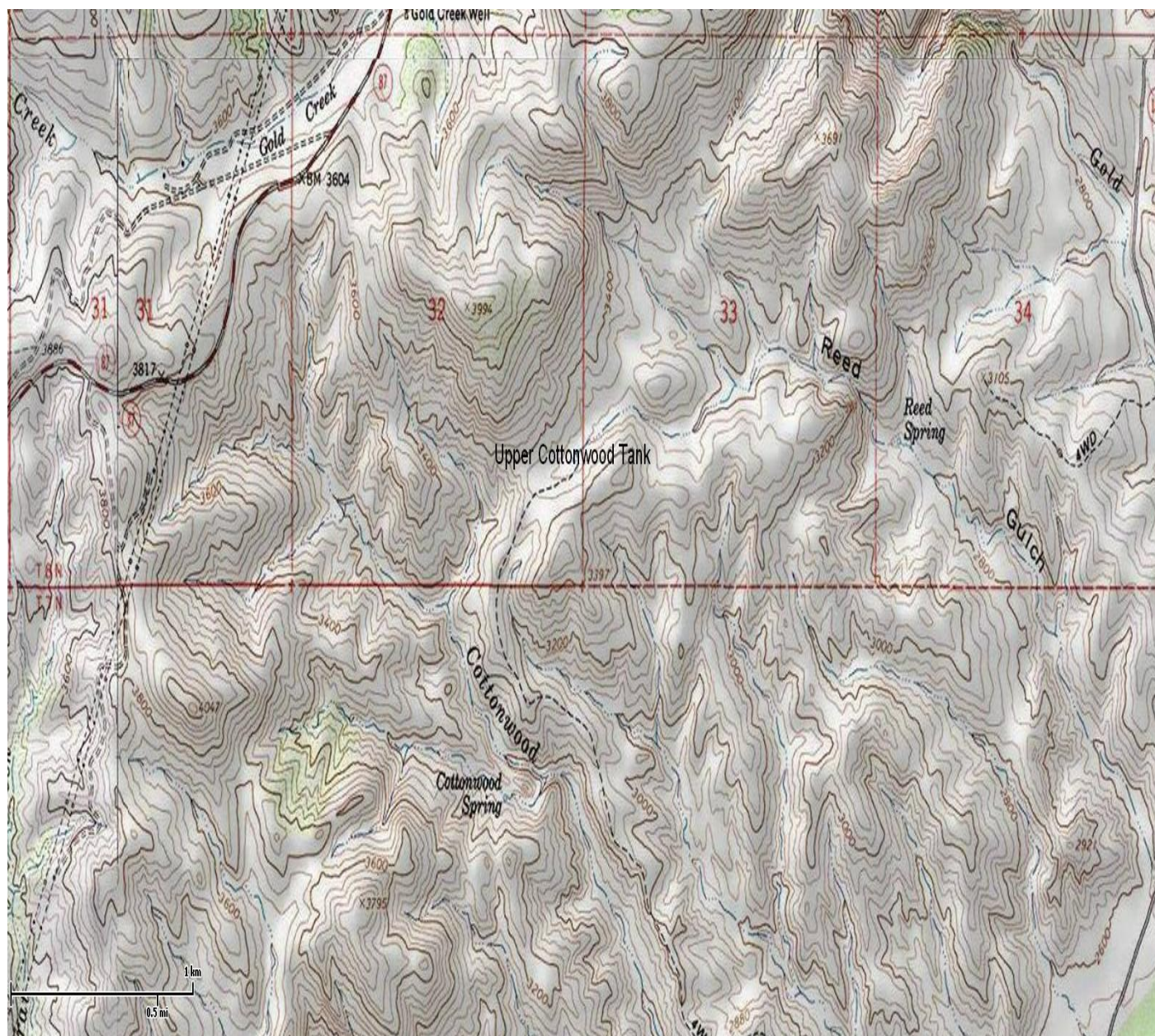
See attached map.

South Fork Tank: T8N, R9E, S13 (USGS Matatzal Quad)

Upper Cottonwood Tank: T8N, R10E (USGS Kayler Butte Quad)







**LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):**

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

United States Forest Service Tonto National Forest, Tonto Ranger District

*IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?*

YES[] NO[] N/A[]

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

These tanks are located at approximately 3,300 feet. The vegetative community consist primarily of interior chaparral and Sonoran upland. Scrub oak, manzanita and mesquite primarily dominate the area.

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

South Fork Tank- Contracted transportation of heavy equipment into and out of tank. Contracted cleaning and repair of dirt tank using heavy equipment - **\$4,500.00**

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

Upper Cottonwood Tank- Contracted transportation of heavy equipment into and out of tank. Contracted cleaning and repair of dirt tank using heavy equipment - **\$4,500.00**

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

Bar-T-Bar Ranch owners and permittees Jack and Sherry Cowan.

Black Mountain Excavating Inc. owners Bill and Lori Brown (contracted labor)

**WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?**

YES[] NO[x] N/A[]

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

Annual site visits to each tank ensuring water holding capacity is maintained.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

NA

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

Jarrold McFarlin (AZGFD)

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):**

NA

**TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):**

NA

## **ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT** **WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

**PROJECT TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**  
☐2-4   ☐4-6   ☐6-8   ☐8-10   ☐10-12   ☐12-14   ☐14-16   ☐ >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**  
  
YES ☐ (please complete #5 below)   NO ☐ (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**  
Name of water source:  
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank):  
Ownership of water source:  
Distance in miles from project:
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES ☐   NO ☐
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**  
Type of access (mark one):   ☐2x4 vehicles   ☐4x4 only   ☐foot only\*\*  
  
\*\*If foot access only: Distance in miles: \_\_\_\_\_   Approximate hiking time: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES ☐   NO ☐  
  
-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** Yes ☐   No ☐  
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.